KNOWLEDGE and LOVE.

Phil.1:9 And this I pray that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and discernment.

INTRO: The Apostle Paul's warning against the knowledge that "puffeth up".

Knowledge without love "puffeth up"
Love without knowledge — The mother of Paris.

I. <u>THE KNOWLEDGE THAT AWAKENS LOVE.</u>

1. Only a knowledge of Love itself leads to love.
Like begets like.

a. The Hebrews' knowledge of Jehovah.
Dt.10:18,19 Jehovah so loveth the resident alien that he giveth to him food and raiment. Love then the resident alien, for ye were onece resident aliens in the land of Egypt.

b. Knowing Christ increases our love for God.
X's principle of love. Mtt.5:43-48
X's example of love; as shown in his works and in his attitude toward Pater, Judas, and the crucifiers.
Is:49:15 Can a woman forget her nursing child that she should not have compassion the son of her womb? Yea, these may forget, yet will not I forget thee."
The measure of papa's love by his four year old son.
X outstretched towards Jerusalem the measure of God love.

c. To God's love thru human love.
Mother's weeping at the Lord's Supper.
"When you become a man and a father then you will understand."

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I. 2. The understanding of others that leads us to love them.

a. Henry VIII's experience in a Lohdon prison, led him to provide light and coal for the prisoners.

b.

If We Understood

Could we but draw back the curtains
That surround each other's lives,
See the naked heart and spirit,
Know what spur the action gives,
Often we should find it better,
Purer than we think we would;
We should love each other better,
If we only understood.

Ah! we judge each other harshly,
Knowing not life's hidden force,
Knowing not the fount of action
Is less turbid at its source,
Seeing not amid the evil
All the golden grains of good;
Oh! we'd love each other better
If we only understood.—*Sel.*

II. <u>The Love that leads to Perfect Knowledge</u>.

1. Knowledge is culture, and culture is conduct, and conduct is character, and character is life, and life is love.

a. How much does love incude?

"We cannot go so far
That home is out of sight;
The morn, the evening star
Will say, "Good-day!" "Good-night!"
The heart that loves will never be alone;
All earth, all heaven it reckons as its own."

b. The "loved-up" flowers in Denmark. Jacob Riis. "The Making of an American"

a. "Upon the marsh mud, dank and foul,
A golden sunbeam softly fell,
And from the noisome depths arose
A lily miracle.

"Upon a dakk, bemired life
A gleam of human love was flung,
And lo, from that ungenial soil
A noble deed upsprung."

II. 2. <u>The power of God's love to transform a life of sin into a life of righteousness.</u>

"What can so transform the life as just the consciousness that somebody finds us worhh loving and trusting."

a.How I stopt smoking.

b."A Singular Life" by Mrs.Elizabeth Stuart Phelps.
Emanuel Bayard, a minister in a N.Eng. city, devotes his life to the descue of the drunkard and ~~the fallen~~ harlot.
Lena, a harlot, resists all hisefforts.
Bayard's desperate attempt to rescue her.
"I did'nt supposed you cared."

3.The New Sense of Humanity, the fruit of God's love.

"Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these," etc.

CONCLUSION:

Read "How Booth interpreted the Lord's Prayer.

7. HOW BOOTH INTERPRETED THE LORD'S PRAYER. 7

Booth and several friends had been invited to dine with an old gentleman in Baltimore, of distinguished kindness, urbanity, and piety. The host, altho disapproving of theatres and the theatre-going, had heard so much of Booth's remarkable powers that curiosity to see the man had, in this instance, overcome all scruples and prejudices. After the entertainment was over lamps lighted, and the company reseated in the drawing-room, someone requested Booth as a particular favor, and one which all present would doubtless appreciate, to read aloud the Lord's Prayer. Booth exprest his willingness to do this and all eyes were turned expectantly upon him. Booth rose slowly and reverently from his chair. It was wonderful to watch the play of emotions that convulsed his countenance. He became deathly pale, and his eyes, turned tremblingly upward, were wet with tears. And yet he had not spoken. The silence could be felt. It became absolutely painful, till at last the spell was broken as if by an electric shock, as his rich toned voice, from white lips syllabled forth, "Our Father who art in heaven," etc., with a pathos andsolemnity that thrilled all hearers. He finished. The silence continued. Not a voice was heard or a muscle moved in his rapt audience, till from a remote corner of the room a subdued sob was heard, and the old gentleman, their host, stept forward, with streaming eyes and tottering frame, and seized Booth by the hand. "Sir," said he, in broken accents, "you have afforded me a pleasure for which my whole future life will feel grateful. I am an old man, and every day from my boyhood to the present time I thot I had repeated the Lord"s Prayer but I have never heard it, never." "You are right," replied Booth; "to read that prayer as it should be read has caused me the severest ~~study and labor for thirty years~~

study and labor for thirty years; and I am far from being satisfied with my rendering of that wonderful production."

The Millennarian.

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A more careful study of the Word: less living for pleasure, and more for growth, culture, and useful service.